

Message Text

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20

ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 NEA-14 IO-14 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-07 H-03 INR-11 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01

PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20 USIA-15 AID-20 EB-11 DRC-01 FEA-02

SCI-06 INT-08 /182 W

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R 010019Z OCT 74

FM AMEMBASSY MEXICO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4058

INFO AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DAKAR

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

USINT ALGIERS

USMISSION USUN NY

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, PORG, MX

SUBJ: FOREIGN SECRETARY RABASA'S PRESS CONFERENCE IN CAIRO

REF: MEXICO 8117

1. FOREIGN SECRETARY RABASA, VISITING THE MID-EAST, HELD A PRESS CONFERENCE ON SEPTEMBER 29 IN CAIRO, TRANSCRIPT OF WHICH WAS PUBLISHED IN GOVERNMENT-CONTROLLED NACIONAL. HIGHLIGHTS WITH EMBASSY COMMENT FOLLOW.

2. RABASA, ASKED ABOUT FULL MEMBERSHIP FOR MEXICO IN NON-ALIGNED CONFERENCES, SAID THIS UNDER SERIOUS CONSIDERATION BY GOM AND WOULD BE RESOLVED BEFORE NAC IN SRI LANKA IN 1976. (COMMENT: EMBASSY UNDERSTANDS THAT SOME NAC LEADERS REMAINS SKEPTICAL OF MEXICAN CREDENTIALS; E.G., SEE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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MEXICO 8191 (NOTAL) FOR VIEWS OF EGYPTIAN AND INDIAN

AMBASSADORS. FURTHER, MEXICAN ADHESION TO RIO TREATY WOULD SEEM TO POSE QUESTIONS RE"NON-ALIGNMENT".)

3. RABASA CAREFULLY DENIED THAT MEXICO SPOKE FOR LATIN AMERICA THOUGH HE INDICATED MEXICO "CARRIED A CERTAIN WEIGHT."

4. HE ACKNOWLEDGED THAT HIS VISIT WAS TO SEE WHETHER THE AMBIENTE WAS RIGHT FOR A VISIT TO EGYPT (AND PRESUMABLY OTHER COUNTRIES IN THE AREA) BY PRESIDENT ECHEVERRIA "PROBABLY NEXT YEAR." (COMMENT: ALREADY THE MOST-TRAVELED MEXICAN PRESIDENT IN HISTORY, THERE IS LITTLE DOUBT THAT ECHEVERRIA PLANS TO VISIT THE MID-EAST-IF THE AMBIENTE IS RIGHT.)

5. ON CUBA: "MEXICO HAS PLAYED A VERY IMPORTANT ROLE." "PERSONALLY", RABASA DOUBTS ANY SIGNIFICANT CHANGE IN U.S.-CUBAN RELATIONS UNTIL AFTER U.S. ELECTIONS IN NOVEMBER. RABASA NEVERTHELESS SAID HE HOPED THE U.S. AND CUBA WOULD ESTABLISH RELATIONS IN THE NEAR FUTURE.

6. ASKED WHETHER THE OAS IS DOMINATED BY THE U.S., RABASA REPLIED: "I BELIEVE THE OAS IS IN A POSITION TO CHANGE ITS IDEALS AND PRINCIPLES WITHOUT U.S. INFLUENCE." (COMMENT: FOR "INFLUENCE" READ "VETO"?)

7. RABASA REITERATED MEXICO'S LONGSTANDING SUPPORT FOR UNSC RESOLUTION 242 ON ISRAELI OCCUPATION OF TERRITORY ACQUIRED BY FORCE.

8. ASKED ABOUT PRESIDENT FORD'S "THREATS" CONCERNING PETROLEUM, RABASA SAID: "WE DO NOT ADMIT THE INTERVENTION OF ANY POWERFUL COUNTRY CONCERNING THE USE OTHER COUNTRIES MAKE OF THEIR NATURAL RESOURCES.".
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